

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Office Action dated October 22, 2009.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

In response to the rejections being maintained against the claims, claims 1 and 15 have been limited to competition entry. Furthermore, claims 1 and 15 now specify the additional limitation of "wherein the temporary registration automatically expires after the duration of the competition". Basis for this amendment can be found at page 34, lines 11-12. Claims 24, 25, 30, 32 and 33 have been cancelled and trivial amendments have been made to some of the remaining dependent claims in order to maintain consistency with claim 1.

The Examiner alleges that the combination of Norris, Braun, Prahan and Lieberman teaches a competition entry in which a temporary registration is based on a telecommunications address of a relay device via which a pen communicates with a computer system. The Applicant submits that the skilled person would not have been able to arrive at the present invention, even if he had considered combining the teachings of Norris, Braun, Prahan and Lieberman. Nevertheless, the Applicant further submits that none of Norris, Braun, Prahan and Lieberman teaches automatic expiration of the temporary registration after the duration of the competition. The Examiner's position is that registrations subsist *indefinitely* until they are changed – in that sense the Examiner argues that all registrations are 'temporary'. However, none of the prior art would have led the skilled person to a temporary registration, based on a telecommunications address of a relay device via which a pen communicates, which only subsists for the duration of a competition. In other words, the pen is automatically 'de-registered' once the competition has finished.

Since the prior art fails to teach this newly-introduced feature of claims 1 and 15, the Examiner is requested to reconsider the rejection of obviousness.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections have been successfully traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,



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